

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation Application of)
Mark J. STEFIK et al) Attn: 3621
Based on U.S. Serial No.: 10/015,952) Examiner: Kambiz Abdi
Which Was Filed: December 17, 2001)
For: A USAGE RIGHTS GRAMMAR AND DIGITAL WORKS) Date: July 14, 2003
HAVING USAGE RIGHTS CREATED WITH THE GRAMMAR)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the subject application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-69 (all Pending Claims) and add the following new claims:

70. (NEW) A system for associating usage rights with digital content, said system comprising:

means for creating usage rights from a grammar, said usage rights specifying a manner of use indicating one or more stated purposes for which the digital content can be at least one of used and distributed by an authorized party;

means for associating the usage rights with the digital content;

means for exchanging information with a first repository for storing the digital content and the associated usage rights and for processing a usage transaction specifying the usage rights to determine if access to the digital content can be granted; and

means for exchanging information with a second repository for generating the usage transaction specifying the usage rights for requesting access to the digital content.

71. (NEW) The system as recited in claim 70, wherein the usage rights also specify one or more conditions which must be satisfied before the manner of use may be exercised.